

Appl. No. 10783574
Amdt. Date: November 9, 2005
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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-33 (cancelled)

Claim 34. (new) An apparatus comprising: an optical fiber having a buffer coating thereon except for a distal end portion thereof encased within a capillary tube; a terminal end surface of the distal end portion beveled at an angle; the optical fiber coaxial within a first tubular enclosure; the capillary tube providing an air interface with the first tubular enclosure enabling total internal reflection of a laser energy in the optical fiber; a port within the first tubular enclosure is positioned adjacent to the distal end portion for disbursing said laser energy through the port over an angular range of between about 70° to 90° with respect to an axis of the optical fiber.

Claim 35. (new) The apparatus of claim 34 further comprising a reflective insert disposed adjacent to the capillary tube and extending over an angular range of from about 90° to 240° in a position for reflecting back-scattered energy.

Claim 36. (new) The apparatus of claim 34 further comprising a liquid infused into the first tubular enclosure for cooling the capillary tube and for flushing debris from the enclosure.

Claim 37. (new) The apparatus of claim 34 further comprising a gas infused into the first tubular enclosure for displacing liquid within the first tubular enclosure.

Claim 38. (new) The apparatus of claim 34 wherein the beveled angle of the distal end portion is between 35° and 50°.

Claim 39. (new) The apparatus of claim 34 wherein the beveled angle of the distal end portion is between 38° and 42°.